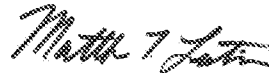


REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the first paragraph of the specification is amended solely to update information relating to priority claims. Accordingly, no new matter is added. Currently, claims 1-66 are pending in this application. Early and favorable examination of all claims is requested.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this paper and charge any required fees that have not been paid to Deposit Account No.50-3740.

Respectfully submitted,
Alberto HAYEK et al.



Date: 07 September 2006

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